

- (5) "Compensation" shall mean all salaries and wages derived from public funds which are earned by a member of the Retirement System for his service as a justice or judge, or district attorney, or clerk of superior court, or public ~~defender~~defender, or the Director of Indigent Defense Services.
- (6) "Creditable service" shall mean for any member the total of his prior service plus his membership service.
- (6a) "District attorney" shall mean the district attorney or solicitor provided for in G.S. 7A-60.
- (6b) "Director of Indigent Defense Services" shall mean the Director of Indigent Defense Services as provided for in G.S. 7A-498.6.
- (7) "Filing" when used in reference to an application for retirement shall mean the receipt of an acceptable application on a form provided by the Retirement System.
- (8) "Final compensation" shall mean for any member the annual equivalent of the rate of compensation most recently applicable to him.
- (9) "Judge" shall mean any justice or judge of the General Court of Justice and the administrative officer of the courts.
- (10) "Medical board" shall mean the board of physicians provided for in G.S. 135-6.
- (11) "Member" shall mean any person included in the membership of the Retirement System as provided in this Article.
- (12) "Membership service" shall mean service as a judge, district attorney, clerk of superior court, ~~or public defender~~ defender, or the Director of Indigent Defense Services rendered while a member of the Retirement System.
- (13) "Previous system" shall mean, with respect to any member, the retirement benefit provisions of Article 6 and Article 8 of Chapter 7A of the General Statutes, to the extent that such Article or Articles were formerly applicable to the member, and in the case of judges of the district court division, district attorney, public defender, the Director of Indigent Defense Services, and clerk of superior court of the General Court of Justice, the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System.
- (14) "Prior service" shall mean service rendered by a member, prior to his membership in the Retirement System, for which credit is allowable under G.S. 135-56.
- (14a) "Public defender" means a public defender provided for in G.S. 7A-498.7, the appellate defender provided for in G.S. 7A-498.8, the capital defender, and the juvenile defender.
- (15) "Regular interest" shall mean interest compounded annually at such a rate as shall be determined by the Board of Trustees in accordance with G.S. 135-7(b).
- (16) "Retirement" shall mean the withdrawal from active service with a retirement allowance granted under the provisions of this Chapter. In order for a member's retirement to become effective in any month, the member must render no service at any time during that month.
- (17) "Retirement allowance" shall mean the periodic payments to which a beneficiary becomes entitled under the provisions of this Article.